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LETTER DATED 7 JULY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a Statement of Acting President of the Azerbaijani Republic and Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijani Republic, His Excellency Mr. Heydar Aliyev on the situation in the country and ongoing Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Statement of 2 July 1993 by Acting President of the Azerbaijani  
Republic and Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijani  
Republic, H.E. Mr. Heydar Aliyev

On 24 June 1993, the powers of the President of the Azerbaijani Republic were handed over to the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijani Republic by the decision of Milli Mejlis of the Azerbaijani Republic.

On behalf of the Azerbaijani Republic, I declare that there will be no changes in the internal and foreign policy of Azerbaijan. I state that Azerbaijan will continue to pursue the path of democracy, political pluralism and free economy. The Azerbaijani State will abide by human rights and all rules of international law, and the democratic reforms initiated in our republic will be stepped up and accelerated henceforth. The economic cooperation with foreign countries launched on the basis of equality and mutual benefit will continue, and obligations undertaken with regard to agreements, envisaged to be signed with some foreign companies, will be met in the framework of civilized standards. As the internal political situation in our country becomes more stable, it will be possible to deal with these matters more closely.

Following measures taken recently, the threat of civil war that would have been very dangerous for our people was eliminated, and internal political tensions decreased to some extent. However, the war waged by Armenia against the Azerbaijani Republic and military attacks launched lately against frontier districts in particular, affect the international political climate considerably.

Armenia took advantage of the crisis of the State system within the Republic, which brought about the disunity of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces, and of the lack of proper control over these matters by the Azerbaijani State bodies, and carried out new attacks on Azerbaijani territories.

Since 12 June, the Armenian military forces carried out attacks in the direction of Aghdam and Aghdara, and captured the district centre of Aghdara and a number of villages. The Gadabay district that is outside the Karabakh area has been subjected to intensive military attacks, as well. As a result of the defence measures taken, these attacks have been repelled, and two or three days ago the shooting was reduced to some extent. However, on 1 July, the Armenian military forces made a heavy attack against another area of Azerbaijan - the Fuzulli and Jabrail districts. A number of our villages were captured, some of them were brutally set on fire, and there are casualties among civilians. Following the latest attacks, thousands more of our fellow countrymen, dispossessed of their property, were added to more than 500,000 refugees in Azerbaijan. Whereas the initiative of the United States, Russia and Turkey for a peaceful settlement of the conflict and the United Nations Security Council resolution 822 have emerged and certain hopes to put an end to this bloody conflict have appeared, the acts of aggression by Armenia caused the sharp deterioration of the situation. I believe that the international community and all nations should resolutely condemn these acts of aggression. On behalf of Azerbaijan, I would like to reiterate that we support all efforts and decisions

made within the CSCE framework on the initiative of the United States of America, Russia and Turkey. The Azerbaijani Republic welcomes peacemaking efforts made under the leadership of the Chairman of the CSCE Minsk Conference, Mr. M. Raffaelli, guarantees to create all conditions necessary to implement these efforts and hopes that the visit of Mr. Raffaelli to the area on 5 July will give impetus to the implementation of the initiative advanced by the group of "the Nine".

In support of the peaceful solution of the dispute, the Government of Azerbaijan calls on State leaders around the world, the United Nations, the CSCE and other authoritative international organizations to resolutely condemn the five-year long aggression of Armenia that has been recently intensified, and to take emergency, effective and drastic measures to curb the aggressor.

We also appeal to all nations and international organizations to provide humanitarian aid to the Azerbaijani Republic, badly needed in the present difficult situation.

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